

Section II (Remarks)

Amendment of the Claims, to Place the Application in Condition for Allowance

By the present Amendment, claim 6 has been amended and rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17 and 19-22 have been cancelled.

By such amendment, the only claims remaining in the application for consideration are claims 6, 16 and 18. The examiner has stated at page 7 of the October 15, 2007 Office Action that such claims 6, 16 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection of such claims under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claim 6, which as previously pending was dependent on claim 3 which in turn was dependent on claim 2, has been amended to recite in claim 6 the subject matter of previously pending claims 2 and 3.

Claim 6, in response to the rejection of such claim under the provisions of 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, for reciting "the particular" in lines 5-6 of such claim, has been amended herein to recite "a particular one of the plurality of communication devices" in place of such objected-to wording, thereby overcoming such rejection.

Claim 6, in response to the further ground of rejection of such claim under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, as not being clear for reciting "the particular communication device can communicate and itself," has been amended. The original recital,

"the communication path-searching means search....for a communication path between the communication devices with which the particular communication device can communicate and itself,"

has been more clearly recited as

"the communication path-searching means search....for a communication path between the particular communication

device and the communication devices with which the particular communication device can communicate,”

thereby making clear the communication devices between which the communication path is sought in carrying out the search function.

Claim 16 depends from claim 6, and has been retained in its previously pending form.

Claim 18 depends from claim 16 and likewise has been retained without change.

Accordingly, claims 6, 16 and 18, which now constitute the only claims pending in the application, have been placed in form and condition for allowance.

The examiner therefore is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance. If any issues require further resolution, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (919) 419-9350 to resolve same, in order that this application can be passed to issue at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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